



General

Guideline Title

Position statement on screening mammography.

Bibliographic Source(s)

American Society of Breast Surgeons. Position statement on screening mammography. Columbia (MD): American Society of Breast Surgeons; 2011 Aug 15. 1 p. [4 references]

Guideline Status

This is the current release of the guideline.

Recommendations

Major Recommendations

The American Society of Breast Surgeons supports annual screening mammography for women age 40 and older. Numerous studies have demonstrated that screening mammography leads to improved survival due to earlier detection of breast cancer, including in women age 40-49. While mammography is less sensitive in younger women and in women with dense breast tissue, the use of digital mammography improves the rate of detection in these women. Some breast cancers will be missed due to breast density or other factors, and some patients will undergo additional imaging or even biopsy for lesions that are subsequently found not to be malignant. However despite the limitations, screening mammography remains the most cost-effective, practical, and accurate screening tool available for the early detection of breast cancer at this time. Patients with breast cancers detected in an earlier stage are more likely to be candidates for breast-conserving surgery, less likely to require chemotherapy, and will have an improved survival compared to women who have their cancers diagnosed at a later stage. Women should be aware of their risk factors and should discuss their concerns regarding screening mammography with their physician.

Clinical Algorithm(s)

None provided

Scope

Disease/Condition(s)

Breast cancer

Guideline Category

Screening

Clinical Specialty

Family Practice

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Oncology

Radiology

Surgery

Intended Users

Advanced Practice Nurses

Physician Assistants

Physicians

Guideline Objective(s)

To provide recommendations concerning annual screening mammography for women age 40 and older

Target Population

Women age 40 and older

Interventions and Practices Considered

Annual screening mammography for women age 40 and older

Major Outcomes Considered

- Earlier detection of breast cancer
- Improved survival rates

Methodology

Methods Used to Collect/Select the Evidence

Searches of Electronic Databases

Description of Methods Used to Collect/Select the Evidence

- A medical librarian conducted a database search (MEDLINE/PubMed - US National Library of Medicine)
- The time frame of the literature search(es) was between June and July of 2011.
- There were no specific inclusion/exclusion criteria. The librarian researched mammography screening articles both from published literature as well as other medical specialty society position statements.
- Specific search terms used included "mammogram," "screening," and "guidelines."

Number of Source Documents

Not stated

Methods Used to Assess the Quality and Strength of the Evidence

Expert Consensus

Rating Scheme for the Strength of the Evidence

Not applicable

Methods Used to Analyze the Evidence

Review

Description of the Methods Used to Analyze the Evidence

Internal review/consensus

Methods Used to Formulate the Recommendations

Expert Consensus

Description of Methods Used to Formulate the Recommendations

Internal review/consensus

Rating Scheme for the Strength of the Recommendations

Not applicable

Cost Analysis

A formal cost analysis was not performed and published analyses were not reviewed.

Method of Guideline Validation

Internal Peer Review

Description of Method of Guideline Validation

This position statement was approved on August 15, 2011 by the American Society of Breast Surgeons Board of Directors.

Evidence Supporting the Recommendations

Type of Evidence Supporting the Recommendations

The type of evidence supporting the recommendations is not specifically stated.

Benefits/Harms of Implementing the Guideline Recommendations

Potential Benefits

Patients with breast cancers detected in an earlier stage are more likely to be candidates for breast-conserving surgery, less likely to require chemotherapy, and will have an improved survival compared to women who have their cancers diagnosed at a later stage.

Potential Harms

Mammography is less sensitive in younger women and in women with dense breast tissue.

Implementation of the Guideline

Description of Implementation Strategy

An implementation strategy was not provided.

Implementation Tools

Resources

For information about availability, see the *Availability of Companion Documents* and *Patient Resources* fields below.

Institute of Medicine (IOM) National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM Care Need

Staying Healthy

IOM Domain

Effectiveness

Identifying Information and Availability

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Adaptation

Not applicable: The guideline was not adapted from another source.

Date Released

2011 Aug 15

Guideline Developer(s)

American Society of Breast Surgeons - Professional Association

Source(s) of Funding

The American Society of Breast Surgeons

Guideline Committee

Board of Directors, The American Society of Breast Surgeons

Composition of Group That Authored the Guideline

Not stated

Financial Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest

Not stated

Guideline Status

This is the current release of the guideline.

Guideline Availability

Electronic copies: Available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the [American Society of Breast Surgeons Web site](#)

Availability of Companion Documents

The following is available:

- Position statement on screening mammography. Video statement press release and video. Available from the [American Society of Breast](#)

Patient Resources

None available

NGC Status

This NGC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on April 15, 2013. The information was verified by the guideline developer on May 13, 2013.

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